



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat and has the honor to extend to the latter a submission from the Government of the Republic of Indonesia on the International Arrangement of Forests (IAF).

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat, the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 2 January 2014



Officer-in-Charge
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat
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**Format for Soliciting Views and Proposals on the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF)
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Ministry / Organization: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia

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Section A: Full range of options for the IAF	
A.1 Please select (with X in front of the options below) and explain the preferred option for the future of the IAF:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A legally binding instrument on all types of forests
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strengthening of the current IAF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continuation of the current IAF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other options (please describe)

Section B: Performance of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and its processes since 2000, and future options for UNFF	
B.1 Please explain if you consider the current UNFF structure and its biennial sessions as sufficient to take necessary actions and to provide policy advice and guidance on all issues related to all types of forests and at all levels:	
<p>- The UNFF structure continues to face increasing challenges particularly in view of the on going debate on SDG's and greater global interests on SFM. Biennial sessions is perceived to be moderately sufficient in addressing global challenges on forest issues and providing policy advice and guidance. However, if it deems necessary, UNFF may meet at an extraordinary session to address particular pressing issues.</p>	

B.2 Please describe the UNFF's performance and list its key achievements in implementing its principal functions, as stated in ECOSOC resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49⁴:

- The UNFF has proven as an effective forum addressing issues related to all types of forests. Its presence has also been widely known by the public. The NLBI and four global goals on forests have been recognised as some of the UNFF key achievements. The International Year of Forest has also been instrumental in disseminating information and increasing public awareness on the importance of forest for future generations.

B.3 Please provide your view on the future options for the UNFF:

- The future options of the UNFF will mainly depend on the political will of all Governments. The effectiveness and efficiency of the work of the UNFF should be prioritized. The UNFF should increase its significant role on SFM policies at all levels.

The implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forest should give positive contribution in managing forest policy related to the SFM at national, regional, and global levels.

The current structure of UNFF should be maintained in the near future, as it is still effective in providing a forum for forest-related deliberation, both on the substance and the involvement of all stakeholders. In the future, the UNFF should be more active in developing and collaborating partnerships with other UN related agencies and encourage their involvement in major activities of the UNFF. However, it is necessary to avoid the duplication of activities of other UN related agencies. The UNFF activities should be complimentary to other UN agencies.

B.4 Please describe the potential roles for UNFF in implementing the UN post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs:

- A specific agenda on post 2015 development agenda and SDGs related to Forest will encourage international initiatives on various aspects of forests activities. In this regard, the UNFF should play its pivotal roles to give inputs to both forums in addressing forests related issues on protection and sustainable forest management, environmental sustainability, and the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests. UNFF should, within their capacity, play its parts in the discussion of the UN post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs. The future biennial sessions should be optimally used not only to define all stake holders contribution, but also to regularly review the UNFF work on this issue.

⁴ Please see these documents at:

- http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/2000_35_E.pdf
- http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/iaf/2006_49_E.pdf

B.5 Please describe the role and impact of Country-Led Initiatives and ad hoc expert groups in the work of the UNFF:

- CLI and AHEG have been playing important contributions in the work of UNFF. The nature of these two mechanisms have proved to be effective in terms of technical, expertise and budget. The future CLI and AHEG as intersessional activities should be focussed and oriented to address crucial and difficult issues on forest as well as to propose them for the deliberation in the UNFF biennial sessions. Similarly, Organization-Led Initiative should continue playing an important role in providing contribution to the future work of UNFF.

B.6 Please indicate how effective you consider the engagement of major groups in the work of the UNFF and provide suggestions on their further engagement:

- The major groups should continue playing their significant role in the work of UNFF. In order to have effective engagement and important contribution, the major groups should be given a sufficient space in the work of UNFF.

B.7 Please explain the role and impact of the International Year of Forests and the International Day of Forests in promoting greater awareness and strengthening political and public commitment for forests:

- The declaration of the International Year of Forests and the International Day of Forests should be complemented by concrete activities "beyond a celebration". It should be used not only to increase public awareness, but more importantly, become a key guidance on the daily SFM practices. General trend shows that forestry and forest issues have not been given enough attention in international and national development agendas. In this context, UNFF should continue actively developing approaches in disseminating information and increasing public awareness on the importance of forests for future generations. In Indonesia, the Year was celebrated by a number of activities that include among others, "One billion trees planting" program that encourages people and corporations to contribute to environmental conservation, and the introduction of The National Forestry Planning 2011-2030, that aim to develop SFM through setting national target of land rehabilitation.

Section C: The Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (Forest Instrument) and the four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs)

C.1 Please indicate progress in the implementation of the forest instrument:

- Adequate
 Inadequate
 Not sure

C.2 Please provide suggestions on how to improve progress:

- Improving progress on the implementation of forest instruments requires multifaceted actions at all levels that include: strengthening national laws and regulations in terms of sanctions for SFM illegal practices; a strong political will at all Governments' levels that put SFM as a high priority, sustainable and sufficient funding from both the international community and local/domestic budget; greater role of private sectors in implementing SFM principles; and Government "rewards and punishments" for the implementation of SFM by the private sectors. As for Indonesia, we have undertaken serious efforts in putting in place mandatory timber legality certification (known as SVLK) as part of our contribution to SFM as well as the implementation of various UNFF resolutions. The certification is the first of its kind and has been recognized in The Indonesia-EU FLEGT-Voluntary Partnership Agreement signed in September 2013.

C.3 Please indicate progress in achieving the GOFs:

	Adequate	Inadequate	Not sure
GOF1:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GOF2:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GOF3:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GOF4:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.4 Please provide suggestions on how to improve progress:

- Progress improvement will mainly depend on how Governments at all levels translate their commitments on GOFs into their laws and policies. While it is closely related to C.2, it is important to stress that national governments set their national quantified targets on certain related objectives, including percentage of their national budgets allocated to SFM as well as increasing the livelihood of forest dependent people. Similarly, international financial institutions should also be able to provide adequate and sustainable funding.

C.5 Please explain how implementation of the forest instrument has contributed to the implementation of forest-related international conventions, and vice versa:

- The forest instrument should be a complementary instrument that may guide decisions of other forest related international conventions. UNFCCC, UNCBD and some regional conventions have recognized the importance of forests issues and tried to link them with GOFs. On the other hand, there remain numbers of challenges on 'transmitting' the legally binding decisions of forest-related international conventions into the work of UNFF. However, the spirit of these legally binding decisions may be adopted in the UNFF future works.

C.6 Please describe how the forest instrument and the GOFs can contribute to the post-2015 UN development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals:

- The forest instrument and the GOFs have been the milestones decisions in the work of the UNFF. Their long and exhaustive decision making process should be fully considered as a guidance in the broader work of the UN, particularly in the formulation and implementation

of the post-2015 Development Agenda and the SDGs. Existing and proposed goals relating to forests and targets on poverty reduction, ecosystem restoration and sustainable agriculture could be aligned under a cross cutting issues SDG.

Section D: The Forum's Secretariat

D.1 Please indicate if you consider the structure, human and financial resources of the compact Secretariat of the UNFF adequate to fulfill its mandates:

- Adequate
 Inadequate
 Not sure

Additional explanation:

D.2 Please provide suggestion(s) on strengthening the Secretariat of the Forum to enable it to fulfill its functions more effectively:

- A stronger UNFF Secretariat is required in order to overcome pressing challenges in regards to the implementation of SFM, SDGs and other forest related conventions. For this purpose, Governments should consider providing and increasing their non-earmarked budgets to the work of the Secretariat. In addition, the increased number of Governments' seconded officers into the Secretariat should be considered. In improving the efficiency of its work, UNFF should develop its engagement with actors from the non-forestry-sector, such as stakeholders from industry, mining, agriculture, public works and human settlements.

D.3 Please provide suggestion(s) on how the Forum Secretariat's role, as a CPF member and as CPF secretariat, should be strengthened: Please see D.2

Section E: CPF and CPF Member Organizations

E.1 Please explain the impacts and sufficiency of the programs and actions taken by CPF and CPF member organizations in implementing resolutions and supporting the work of UNFF since its inception:

- CPF and CPF member organizations have been playing pivotal role in supporting the UNFF works and in the implentation of UNFF resolutions. With their unique expertise, they have given positive impacts to the work of UNFF.

E.2 Please describe how the CPF and its member organizations can further contribute to the work of the UNFF, and how to ensure availability of necessary resources for its activities in support of the work of the Forum:

- It is important to consider a greater involvement of experts from tropical forest countries to provide more insights and effective contributions to the work of CPF organizations.

Section F: Financing options and strategies

F.1 Please provide views on financing options and strategies, including the creation of a voluntary Global Forest Fund, to generate resources from all sources for sustainable management of all types of forests and trees outside forests:

- The creation of a voluntary GFF should be seriously considered as part of important strategies in the future. The current financial structure is found to be ineffective in tackling emerging financial difficulties faced by majority of developing countries in dealing with their forest management.

F.2 Please suggest concrete steps that UNFF, CPF members and other organizations should undertake to develop forest financing options:

- UNFF-11 is expected to take decision on this urgent matter, including the strengthening of public-private partnership (ppp) and developing inovative financing menchanism.